

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 OES-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00
INR-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 DODE-00 SP-02 L-01
SSO-00 IO-06 ACDE-00 /057 W
-----161238Z 090685 /44

O R 161153Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4225
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 17728

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TECH, PFOR, PARM, MNUC, US,US,FR,JA,IT,CA,GW
SUBJECT: FRENCH PRESIDENT CONSIDERS RESULTS OF
JUNE 8-9 NUCLEAR EXPERTS MEETING INCOMPLETE AND ASKS
EXPERTS TO RESUME WORK

REF: PARIS 17415

1. SUMMARY. QUAI D'ORSAY NUCLEAR AFFAIRS DIRECTOR,
PHILIPPE LOUET, REVIEWED CURRENT FRENCH PREDICAMENT
REGARDING THE RESULTS OF THE JUNE 8-9 NUCLEAR EXPERTS
MEETING. ON JUNE 10, THE FRENCH PRESIDENT AND HIS
COUNCIL ON NUCLEAR EXPORT POLICY FOUND THE RESULTS OF
THE JUNE 8-9 MEETING LACKING IN COMPLETING THE MANDATE
GIVEN TO THE GROUP BY THE LONDON MAY SUMMIT: TO MAKE
A PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF THE BEST TECHNICAL MEANS OF
MEETING WORLD ENERGY NEEDS WHILE AVOIDING THE DANGER OF
NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION. THROUGH FRENCH EMBASSIES IN
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ADDRESSEE CAPITALS ON JUNE 13 THIS VIEW WAS RELAYED
TOGETHER WITH THE PROPOSAL THAT THE GROUP OF EXPERTS
RECONVENE TO COMPLETE THEIR WORK. THE GOF IS CURRENTLY
PREPARING A PAPER WHICH WOULD BE ITS PRELIMINARY CON-
CEPT OF THE RESULTS OF SUCH A MEETING. END SUMMARY.

2. ON JUNE 15 LOUET REVIEWED WITH EMBASSY SCICOUN

THE EVENTS OF THE PAST FEW DAYS. AT THE FRIDAY, JUNE 10, MEETING WITH THE FRENCH PRESIDENT, THE COUNCIL ON NUCLEAR EXPORT POLICY HEARD FROM FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD ON THE RESULTS OF THE JUNE 8-9 MEETING OF EXPERTS AT PARIS: THE TECHNICAL OUTLINE AND THE ORGANIZATION PORTION HAD BEEN AGREED AND AN INTRODUCTORY PORTION CONTAINING BRACKETED LANGUAGE HAD BEEN DEVELOPED (SUBSTANCE REFTEL). THE FOREIGN SECRETARY ADDED THAT THE ADENDA ITEM ON IDENTIFYING THE BEST MEANS OF ADVANCING NUCLEAR ENERGY USE AND NON-PROLIFERATION OBJECTIVES HAD NOT BEEN DWELT ON DURING THE MEETINGS BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT AS THE LONDON SUPPLIERS MEETINGS AND EXTENSIVE BILATERAL DISCUSSION GAVE EACH OF THE SEVEN COUNTRIES AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE VIEWS OF THE OTHERS. THE TWO-DAY MEETING DID REASONABLY WELL TO ARRIVE AT THE TECHNICAL OUTLINE AND SOME ORGANIZATIONAL ASPECTS OF THE INFCEP.

3. THE FRENCH COUNCIL TOOK THE VIEW THAT THE WORK WAS INCOMPLETE, THAT THE PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF THE BEST MEANS OF ADVANCING NUCLEAR ENERGY AND NON-PROLIFERATION BY AGREEMENT AT THE LONDON SUMMIT WAS TO BE PART OF THE WORK TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN THE TWO MONTHS FOLLOWING THE SUMMIT. LOUET ADDED A FOOTNOTE THAT HE UNDERSTOOD ONE ATTENDEE AT THE COUNCIL TO HAVE COMMENTED TO THE EFFECT THAT HOW COULD A GROUP OF POLICY PEOPLE COMPLETE IN TWO DAYS WHAT WAS EXPECTED OF A GROUP OF NUCLEAR EXPERTS IN TWO MONTHS. LOUET ALSO NOTED THAT THE REACTION OF THE COUNCIL WAS NOT CONFIDENTIAL

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INCONSISTENT WITH THE INITIAL OUTLINE OF THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF THE EXPERTS CIRCULATED BY THE US ON MAY 16.

4. A BRIEF COMMUNIQUE FROM THE FRENCH COUNCIL ON NUCLEAR EXPORT POLICY MADE PUBLIC THAT AFTERNOON (JUNE 10) INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH AS ITS ONLY REFERENCE TO THIS SUBJECT (INFORMAL TRANSLATION): "THE COUNCIL WAS INFORMED ON THE WORK OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS CREATED RECENTLY DURING THE LONDON SUMMIT, BRINGING TOGETHER (REUNISSANT PENDANT) DURING TWO MONTHS THE NUCLEAR EXPERTS OF SEVEN COUNTRIES, AND RECALLED THAT THE OBJECT OF THIS GROUP WAS TO MAKE A PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF THE BEST TECHNICAL MEANS OF MEETING WORLD ENERGY NEEDS WHILE AVOIDING THE DANGER OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION."

5. LOUET SAID THAT AS OF JUNE 15 THE GOF HAD RECEIVED TWO COMMENTS: THE US ASKED FOR SOMETHING ON PAPER

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WHICH WOULD MAKE CLEAR WHAT THE GOF HAD IN MIND; AND
THE FRG AGREED THAT SOMETHING WAS NEEDED TO COMPLETE
THE MANDATE TO THE GROUP OF EXPERTS BUT IT DID NOT
HAVE A SPECIFIC PICTURE OF WHAT IT MIGHT BE.

6. THE GOF IS NOW DRAFTING ITS PRELIMINARY CONCEPT
OF A PAPER THAT WOULD MEET THE UNFINISHED WORK OF THE
GROUP WITH A VIEW TO CIRCULATING IT TO THE OTHER
SIX GOVERNMENTS BY EARLY IN THE WEEK OF JUNE 20. IN
ITS MESSAGE OF JUNE 13 TO THE OTHER SIX GOVERNMENTS,
THE GOF STATED THAT IT WAS PREPARED TO ATTEND SUCH A
MEETING AT ANYTIME AND AT ANY PLACE. THE FRENCH DO
NOT APPEAR ANXIOUS TO HOLD THE SECOND MEETING IN
PARIS, ALTHOUGH HAVE NOT RULED OUT SUCH A POSSIBILITY.
THE QUAI CONTINUES WITH THE VIEW THAT THE WORK IS TO
BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED TO THE SEVEN GOVERNMENTS
BY JULY 7.

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7. COMMENT: WITHIN TWO MONTHS IT IS REASONABLE TO CALL A TWO-DAY MEETING, DEVELOP A PAPER, THEREAFTER IRON OUT SOME DISAGREEMENTS AND COMPLETE THE PAPER FOR SUBMISSION TO GOVERNMENTS. THE FRENCH COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE IMPLIES THAT NUCLEAR EXPERTS WOULD MEET DURING THE TWO MONTH PERIOD - CONTINUOUSLY, AND THEREAFTER PRESENT THEIR REPORT TO GOVERNMENTS. THIS LATTER COURSE OF ACTION IS UNREALISTIC IN LIGHT OF THE KNOWN VIEWS OF EACH OF THE SEVEN GOVERNMENTS AND THE IMPRACTICALITY OF BRINGING TOGETHER THE RIGHT PEOPLE FOR SUCH A LONG PERIOD ON NO NOTICE. QUAI OFFICIALS ARE MOST APOLOGETIC ABOUT THE TURN OF EVENTS AND BLAME THE LACK OF EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE QUAI AND THE ELYSEE. THE RESULTS OF A SECOND MEETING WOULD BE AT BEST A SUMMARY OF THE VIEWS OF EACH GOVERNMENT INCLUDING AREAS OF AGREEMENT AND DISAGREEMENT. THIS CURRENT FRENCH MANEUVER APPEARS AS A STRONGER FRENCH STAND THAN THAT REPRESENTED IN THE BRACKETED LANGUAGE IN THE WORK OF THE JUNE 8-9 MEETING. THE AREAS OF DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN THE US AND FRANCE HAVE NOT CHANGED AND UNLESS RESOLVED TO SOME DEGREE, FRANCE MAY FEEL THAT WITH THIS PROCEDURAL MOVE, IT TEMPORARILY HOLDS THE US FROM PROCEEDING UNILATERALLY WITH THE LAUNCHING OF THE INFCEP. GAMMON

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